

**SB 795 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**

**Senate Committee On Human Services**

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**Action Date:** 02/01/23

**Action:** Without recommendation as to passage and be returned to President's desk for referral to another committee.

**Vote:** 5-0-0-0

**Yeas:** 5 - Gelser Blouin, Manning Jr, Prozanski, Robinson, Weber

**Fiscal:** Fiscal impact issued

**Revenue:** Revenue impact issued

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**Meeting Dates:** 2/1

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

Directs the State Board of Forestry to convey forest lands within a county to the county if conveyance of the forest lands to the county would secure the greatest permanent value of the forest lands, and if the board of county commissioners requests that the State Board of Forestry convey the forest lands to the county. Directs counties to pay all transaction and closing costs related to a conveyance. Directs the Oregon Department of Administrative Services to assist the State Board of Forestry with the conveyance of forest lands.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Provisions of measure

**EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:**

No amendment.

**BACKGROUND:**

Oregon Law (ORS 530.010) allows the State Board of Forestry to acquire lands that can be used for forest crops, watershed protection and development, erosion control, grazing, recreation, or forest administrative purposes. The State Board of Forestry must manage the lands acquired to secure the greatest permanent value of those lands to the state (ORS 530.050) and can: protect and reforest the lands; sell forest products from the lands; execute mining leases; enter into and administer contracts for the sale of timber; permit the use of the lands for other purposes; grant easements, permits and licenses over, through and across the lands; require and collect fees or charges for the use of state forest roads; and establish a forestry carbon offset program to market, register, transfer or sell forestry carbon offsets.

Senate Bill 795 would allow the State Board of Forestry to convey forest lands to counties when that secures the greatest permanent value of the forest lands or if the board of county commissioners requests it.